

Gimme Shelter

News from the Loudoun County Animal Shelter

Loudoun County Department of
Animal Care & Control

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Fee Changes are Coming



The Board of Supervisors has approved a fee increase for Animal Care & Control services effective July 1, 2008. The fee increase was deemed necessary during the budget process for fiscal year 2009 to help offset costs for two new Animal Care & Control staff positions.

Beginning July 1, the cost for a Loudoun County Dog License will be \$10.00 annually regardless of the spay/neuter status of the dog. Animal Care & Control Director Thomas Koenig noted that, "licensing fees are an essential source of revenue to allow Animal Control to provide a high level of service to Loudoun County citizens."

Adoption fees will also be changing on July 1. To clarify the overall fee for adopting animals, a separate spay/neuter fee will be charged for dogs and cats requiring the surgery. By law, all dogs and cats that have not previously been altered are spayed or neutered prior to going home with their adopter.

"While the cost to adopters for spaying/neutering their new pets is increasing, the Department is still subsidizing a significant portion of the overall cost for the surgery," noted Director Koenig. "It is also important for citizens and potential adopters to understand that the cost of providing for the care and welfare of animals at the Shelter has risen every year, while this is the first increase in fees since 2002."

To help encourage the adoption of older pets, the Department will continue to offer a discounted adoption fee for members of its "Gray Whiskers Club," which are cats and dogs age 7 years or older. For a complete list of Animal Care & Control fees, visit the Department's website at www.loudoun.gov/animals.

Fireworks & Fido

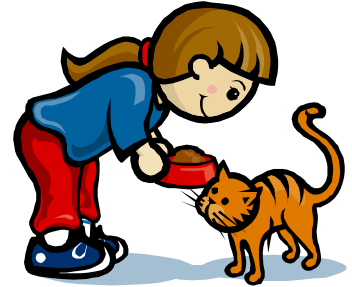
The Fourth of July is known as a day of family fun, but did you also know that it is one of the most stressful days for our four legged friends? Fireworks can be very scary for cats and dogs, but by following a few simple tips we can all have a happy holiday.

First, make sure to keep pets indoors during fireworks displays. Dogs and cats are sensitive to not only the loud noise, but also to vibrations and smells that we may not even notice. Leave your pet in a room with curtains closed, and turn on

the radio or TV to help drown out some of the noise. It's also a good idea to have a crate, bed, or other cozy hiding place available, along with some toys as distractions. If you must be outside with your pet, make sure that he is securely leashed or in a carrier.

Also remember to practice good fire safety if you are lighting fireworks at your home. Keep pets away from any matches or fireworks, even if they are not lit. Curious pets may try to eat them which could be deadly.

Shelter Camp



Animal Care & Control has teamed up with Parks & Rec to offer the first ever Animal Shelter Camp!

This week long animal adventure will run July 7-11, and will allow 12 campers age 11-14 to experience all aspects of life at the Shelter!

They will get to know the animals, help out with daily Shelter activities, and enjoy guest speakers and classes on dogs, cats, rabbits, wildlife, and horses, and will work on crafts and projects.



And of course, pet hair can easily be singed by sparks or open flames.

Finally, make sure your pet is wearing current identification at all times. Many animals get loose at this time of year and come to the Shelter. Current ID will make sure your pet comes home quickly and safely!

Paws for Your Heart

The first annual **Paws for Your Heart** 5K Dog Walk was held at Ida Lee on Saturday, June 21, benefiting the Animal Shelter and Douglass Community Center Advisory Board for Children's Programs. Over 100 people and their pets came out to walk and have a great time. Thank you to the organizers for putting on such a fantastic fun day!



Employee of the Month

Lisa Shaw is June's Employee of the Month! Lisa started with the Department as an Animal Care Technician, and recently became an Animal Control Officer. Lisa is being recognized for her excellent and unselfish work in her new position. Her efforts to ensure that her duties are accomplished and then pitching in and helping the shelter staff when they are short staffed is highly commendable. Lisa has helped with everything from taking bags of laundry

to an offsite facility, making litter boxes, cleaning toys and dishes, and assisting with the animals when needed. Lisa is always the first to offer assistance, and her can-do attitude and willingness to jump in to any task make her the consummate team player.

Thank you Lisa for all you do!

Congratulations Lisa!



What We're Up To...

Welcome Britney

Animal Care & Control is happy to welcome a summer intern to the Department. **Britney Dow** is a rising senior at Heritage High School, and she's spending the summer working at the Shelter and learning all aspects of the Department. She'll be assisting with special events, summer camp, and lots of other projects. Welcome Britney!

Furry Friday

The next **Furry Friday Adoption Event** will be on Friday, July 25, 5:00-7:00pm,

at the Sterling Community Center. Meet pets looking for new homes, get free samples, and have some fun! Don't miss it!

Watch us on FOX 5

Be sure to tune in to the FOX 5 midday news on Friday, July 25 to see some of the Animal Shelter's best pets! We'll be showing off some of our adoptable animals and providing pet tips too. Check it out!

Happy July 4

The Animal Shelter will be **closed** on Friday, July 4, in observance of the holiday. Emergency Animal Control services are available by calling 703-777-0445.

